

**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Diedre Sullivan, Chair
Ken Ekelund

John Huerta

TIME: 10:00 a.m.
DATE: Wednesday, April 9, 2014
PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency
893 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4860

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 10:00 a.m. by Committee Member Ken Ekelund.

Members present: Directors Ken Ekelund, John Huerta
Members absent: Deidre Sullivan

A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 14, 2013

At the time the Minutes were taken for the August 14, 2013 meeting, Mr. John Huerta was not a member of the Committee. Because Committee Chair Sullivan was absent at the April 9, 2014 Committee meeting, the remaining members agreed to certify the Minutes for August 14, 2013.

COMMITTEE ACTION: The Committee agreed to certify the Planning Committee Minutes for August 14, 2013.

4. DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT OF AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

David Chardavoyne, General Manager, led the discussion on developing the Planning Committee's areas of responsibility. He began by asking the Committee "what should be the responsibility of the Planning Committee" and noted that the Committee appeared to lack a mission. He asked that the Committee develop some ideas and then refine them at the next Committee meeting.

Some of the suggested responsibilities are:

1. CAMP – Capital Asset Management Program – review assets and establish priorities, review and/or create replacement plans, determine how to deal with deferred maintenance, establish plans for reserves
2. Strategic Planning – Develop Agenda
3. Channel Maintenance Program – short term
4. River Management – long term
5. Flood Plain Management
6. Office move – requires attention soon.
7. IRWMP
8. Grants

These suggested responsibilities will be brought back to the Planning Committee at the next meeting in May for further discussion and refinement.

5. REVIEW THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEER'S PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDY CONTRACT; AND, DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Manuel Quezada, Senior Engineer, led the discussion on the Feasibility Study Contract proposed by the Corps of Engineers. He noted that in 2007, Monterey County and Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, as Non-Federal Sponsors (NFS), entered into a design agreement with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to cost-share the project at 75% to 25%. At the time of the agreement, the total design costs were estimated at \$10,800,000 of which \$2,700,000 represented NFS 25% match. NFS were awarded grant funding from the State of DWR through Propositions 1E and 50 which were applied towards NFS' match. By the end of this year, the NFS will have contributed a total of \$2,688,000.

A National Economic Development (NED) project was developed establishing a federal interest to participate in the project and a benefit cost ratio used to prioritize Federal funding for projects. NFS believed the economic analysis was deficient and the level of flood protection provided inadequate. A number of locally preferred project alternatives were analyzed for the purpose of addressing these concerns and developing a more competitive benefit cost ratio. The remaining grant amounts will be expended by September 2014. All costs above this amount will be the sole responsibility of the NFS. NFS has sought assistance from local and federal legislators throughout this entire process.

The existing design agreement will expire by the end of 2014. At that point, all costs will be paid by NFS. A new Federal Cost-Share Agreement is necessary to complete the remaining work at a 50-50 cost share with Corps. An estimate of remaining costs remains to be developed and agreement negotiated.

Following discussion by the Committee and staff it was determined that this item should also be taken to the Capital Committee, a sub-committee of the Board of Supervisors, before going before the full Board of Supervisors. The Committee asked that Staff recommend to Monterey County to negotiate to keep the existing agreement, emphasizing the share that Monterey County paid vis-à-vis Santa Cruz County, noting

that 30% of the area in question is in Monterey County while 70% of the area is in Santa Cruz County.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Upon motion made by Committee Member John Huerta and seconded by Committee Member Ken Ekelund the Committee recommended to the full Board of Directors to consider recommending to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors to negotiate and enter into a Cost-shared Feasibility Study Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for the Pajaro River Levee Project.

6. **SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**
The next meeting date is set for Thursday, May 14, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT by Chair Ken Ekelund @ 11:05 a.m.

Submitted by: Alice Henault

Approved on June 18, 2014